

J.R. Wilson



Soccer News



The Official Organ of
VICTORIAN AMATEUR SOCCER FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION
Edited by V. J. M. Dixon.

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FIFERS IN TRAINING



FIFERS' goalkeeper (George McFarlane) snaps the ball off Len Chapple's toe in a practice work-out. Playing in the recent State Trial games, George was unfortunate to be injured and had to leave the ground, but has since recovered.

* * *

Win a CASH PRIZE ! Turn to Page 9

Editorial

All communications re "Soccer News" must be sent to the Editor, V. J. M. Dixon, 40 Beach Road, Hampton.



This week—King's Birthday—Victorians have an opportunity, which is unique in our soccer history.

Playing in Melbourne at the same time against different clubs are two of the strongest teams in New South Wales. This trial of strength against two of Melbourne's First Division teams cannot fail to appeal to local fans for it will give a definite indication of the progress of the game in this State since its comparative re-birth after the War. The two N.S.W. clubs concerned (Woonona-Bulli and Metters-Canterbury) both play in the N.S.W. State League, which is undoubtedly the strongest soccer league in Australia.

Woonona-Bulli club is here as the guest of Sandringham city and on Monday will play the Mammers at Olive Street Oval, Hampton. Enthusiasts desiring to see this game should take the train to Hampton, from where the Red bus goes straight to the ground. Travelling by car the ground can be reached by Nepean Highway to Moorabbin, thence to Bluff Road. The ground is in Ludstone Street—first turning on the right in Bluff Road.

On the preceding Sunday, Sandringham City are taking their guests to Wonthaggi, where they will play a game for the benefit of the local hospital and with the idea of stimulating the game in Wonthaggi—a fine gesture on Sandringham's part.

On the Monday morning also, Sandringham are running a lightning Junior premiership, with 30 Junior teams competing. This is a great opportunity to see the fine job that these youngsters and their coaches are doing.

Metters-Canterbury, who are here at the invitation of Brighton, have been a name in N.S.W. soccer for many years and many of their players, whose history appears on another page, are known throughout Australia. The main game this club will play in Melbourne will be versus Brighton at Olympic Park on Sunday at 2.45 p.m. This game will not therefore clash with the Woonona-Sandringham game, so that it is hoped that both Brighton and Sandringham City (who have gone to considerable expense to import these fine clubs) will be amply supported by the local following and thereby recoup themselves.

Metters-Canterbury will play Brighton a second game on Monday, this time at Brighton's ground, which is at Hurlingham Park, Brighton, and can be reached by train to North Brighton, thence a short run by bus. Car travellers will find the ground on the left in Nepean Highway about 200 yards past the well-known Tommy Bent's statue.

During the week-end the Hakoah club will be playing their annual fixture against Hakoah (Sydney) on Monday at Olympic Park. Followers of the game, therefore, can be assured of a feast of soccer, and this paper strongly advises that no one misses the opportunity to see both these crack N.S.W. teams and the gallant local boys, who have "stuck their necks out" and challenged the best that Sydneysiders have to offer. Good luck to both of them.

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WELCOME

On behalf of the Victorian Amateur Soccer Football Association, "Soccer News" extends its greetings and a hearty welcome to our visitors from N.S.W.—Metters-Canterbury, Woonona-Bulli and Hakoah (Sydney) and wishes them a most enjoyable week-end.

METTERS-CANTERBURY SOCCER FOOTBALL CLUB

The amalgamation of these former strong clubs over two years ago has resulted in the Metters-Canterbury combination having the biggest ground in New South Wales and drawing the biggest gates. Already this team has won the Sydney Cup, which is recognised as the championship of the Southern half of the State, all Sydney and South Coast teams taking part in it. Games are played on Sundays, large crowds attending. The final drew over 4000, despite heavy rain, when Metters-Canterbury defeated Bankstown by 3 goals to 2. Ordinary League games see Metters-Canterbury draw a strong following. Recently Leichhardt, then undefeated leaders, beat M.-C. with a goal scored a minute from time. The defence is considered the best in the State, the half-back line having all gained State honors. With nine games played at time of writing, their figure is 15 for 13 against.

In August, 1949, a Mr. Anderson, of the Brighton club, was visiting Sydney. A son of his had played for M.C., and the suggestion was then made that a meeting between the two clubs be arranged. Brighton jumped at the opportunity and issued an invitation to M.-C. to visit them over the King's Birthday weekend, 1950. The invitation was accepted and two games between the clubs were arranged. M.-C. will play their League fixture on Saturday, in Sydney, as usual and will leave by plane (A.N.A.) at approximately 7.45 the same night. They will be met at the city offices of A.N.A. by members of the V.A.S.F.A. and the Brighton Club and will then be taken to the homes where they have been billeted. They will leave on the return trip on Monday night, June 12, at approximately 7 o'clock (again by plane).

This schedule, unfortunately, does not allow Brighton to entertain their guests as they wish, and it will be confined to a short trip to the Hills on Sunday morning, June 11, a social evening on Sunday night, and a welcome by the Mayor of Brighton (Cr. D. Granter) on Monday, June 12.

Two games will be played between the clubs as follows:—

Sunday, June 11.—Metters-Cant. v. Brighton, Olympic Park, at 2.45 p.m.

Monday, June 12.—Metters-Cant. v. Brighton, Hurlington Park, at 2.45 p.m.

The Reserve team will visit Tasmania over the King's Birthday weekend, and will play two games against a team representing the Northern Tasmania Soccer Association.

OUR METTERS-CANTERBURY VISITORS

OSSIE JONES (goal) is deputising for Norm Conquest, who is with the Australian team in South Africa. Ossie has been M.-C.'s reserve goalie for some years.

CHARLIE PUCKERIDGE (right-back) has been a regular member of M.-C. team for two years. The "never better" type, whose speed and agility gets his team out of many tight corners.

ROY PARKINSON (left-back). A robust tackler, very speedy. Rarely plays a bad game, being sound and reliable. Been with club two years.

BOBBIE MADDEN (right-half). One of the soccer code's greatest all-round sportsmen. A Sheffield Shield cricketer, he has won honors at rugby and represented N.S.W. at soccer. Started his career with the famous Canterbury-Bankstown side with Reg Date at centre-forward. Bobbie is only 21 and has been playing first-class cricket and soccer since 17 years of age.

JIM ("WAGGA") WALLACE (centre-half). Captain of the side. Six feet tall and 13 stone, Jim is a grand player with a State reputation for his exposition of the 3rd back game. Although nearly 37, he is still one of the speediest halves in N.S.W. Represented N.S.W. and Australia at soccer, and is also a good cricketer.

LEN SMITH (left-half). Hails from England and has held his position for three years. Amazing ball control is Len's forte and is in great form this year. Represented N.S.W. versus Yugoslavia.

TOM IREDALE (outside-right). An outstanding winger; was formerly with Metters for three years. Has speed and can shoot.

GEORGE DINGWELL (inside-right). A newcomer to the team, he was formerly with Concord, only transferring on May 3. A clever inside-forward, he is equally at home as a half-back.

NORMAN WRIGHT (centre-forward). The baby of the team, being only 20. Norm is in his first season of first-grade football. Made the team after only one trial and looks like being a prolific goal scorer.

RON HUGHES (inside-left). Needs no introduction to Victorian fans, who have seen him represent Australia at the M.C.G. versus South Africa and Yugoslavia. Was unavailable for team touring South Africa. A wily player, he has a terrific left foot drive. Ron, now 28, has been playing first-grade since he was 18 years. Brother to well-known Bully Hughes.

MAX WYNNE (outside-left). A big man as wingers go, Max packs a drive in either foot. Been with the Metters side for 10 years and also gained representative honors with N.S.W. and Australia on several occasions.

Mr. ANDY BURTON, travelling with the team as business manager. Has had a long and vast experience in soccer as administrator, being secretary of the Canterbury-Bankstown club, which won all before them in 1946 and 1947 seasons. President of the N.S.W. Soccer Commission, which controls over 18,000 players, Andy has managed N.S.W. and Australian sides.

Mr. CHARLES MILLS. A foundation member of the M.-C. club, with a jovial disposition, he is a great favorite with all the players. Was a colleague of Mr. Burton for many years, and is the present team manager.

Mr. W. BEASLEY, Club Selector and Committeeman. Has had a vast experience in N.S.W. and England.

WOONONA-BULLI STATE LEAGUE CLUB

This club was formed in 1887, and was admitted into the State League in 1928, when the League was formed.

Woonona has been runners-up twice in the State Association Cup, runner-up in Gardiner and Priest Cups, won Sydney Cup three times, also Miller and Pallier Cups.

The club is proud of the record it has in supplying three forwards in the First Test against South Africa, namely, C. Stewart, E. Drain and J. Cunningham (retired).

The club colors are red and blue shirts, white knickers with red and blue hooped sox.

J. JENKINS (goalkeeper).—He is one of Australia's finest goalkeepers, and was unlucky to miss out on the tour of South Africa.

K. WORTHINGTON (goalkeeper).—Up to this season he has been playing left-wing for the Reserve grade team, and his uncanny skill of taking the ball in the air will please the public. A fine tennis player and one of the leading cricketers.

J. BRACEWELL (right full-back).—He is a cool player and will worry the opposition all the time. He can play either left or right full-back.

- C. RHODES (left full-back).—Playing at his top, and will always be in the thick of it; can play left-half or left-wing (he is no stranger to these positions. Plays cricket and is a good bowler)
- G. LACEY (right full-back).—He is a hard tackler, knows no fear, can play left full-back or left or right-half; can also play inside-right. A handy man to have in any team.
- B. JONES (right-half).—He is the baby of the team, aged 17 years, and one of the best Juniors this club has produced for a long time. Is at home at left-half.
- A. POOLE (centre-half).—Another fine player, aged 20, and has the right height for a centre-half. Can play wing-half either left or right; is sure to please the crowd.
- E. DUFF (left-half).—This boy will go a long way in soccer. Aged 20, only small, but a constant menace to the opposition.
- C. STEWART (right-wing), Capt.**—One of the finest and fastest wingers in the game. Why he was not picked to tour Qld. is a mystery. Played his first State League game at the age of 15. Is a deadly shot with either foot, and is no stranger to the centre-forward position. Will please the crowd with his dashes down the wing.
- T. RUMLEY (inside-right).—Up till two years ago, was classed as a fine centre-forward; held the highest goals scored in a season before he joined Woonona. Would sooner play inside-right; deadly shot with either foot.
- E. DRAIN (inside-left).—One of the best inside-lefts, and his clever footwork will be a big thing to see. He is a deadly shot with either foot and is a fine tennis player.
- A. THOMAS (left-wing).—This is his last year in State League. Aged 20 and is a future champion. Only small, but that does not stop him; his fine play with Drain is pleasing to see; is just as good as an inside-left.
- A. BIDDULPH (right or left-wing or centre-forward).—Is very fast and is leading goal scorer for the Reserve grade, playing at left-wing.
- S. NEWTON (Manager).—Was one of the best at centre-half in his day. Is well liked by all who have come into contact with him.
- J. McGOLDRICK (President).—Before taking on Presidency of the Club was an international referee. He refereed all South Coast games against India, China, Palestine and South Africa; also refereed Sydney Cup finals.
- F. VAUGHAN (Secretary).—Played Junior football and First Grade District football at the age of 18 as right-winger. While playing Army football he injured his leg, which forced him to give football up. Plays tennis and cricket.

HAKOAH (MELBOURNE) v. HAKOAH (SYDNEY)

The annual interstate game between Hakoah J.R.C. (Melbourne) and Hakoah (Sydney) will be held on King's Birthday, June 12, 1950 (Monday) at Olympic Park, commencing at 2.30 p.m. sharp. The match will be played for the A. N. Roth trophy, which at present is held by Hakoah J.R.C., Melbourne.

In the event of the game being drawn at the finish of 90 minutes and extra 15 minutes each way shall be played, and should the result not be altered, then the Cupholder retains the trophy for the next 12 months.

An official referee and linesmen of the V.S.R.A. will officiate. A curtain-raiser will be a game between a combined Hakoah and combined Prahran side.

A Few Notes About the Visitors.—Hakoah (Sydney) is a strong side which is playing in the Metropolitan area of Sydney, and is on top of the Division. The team will be selected from the following 12 players: R. Brenner, M. Balbirer, T. Feuerstein, E. Goldstein, E. Kohn, F. Loew, K. Maerischel (captain, former Hakoah J.R.C., Melbourne), W. Pish, A. Rath, Z. Rosenfeld, O. Selinger, G. Shipp. The non-playing coach and captain is W. Gross. The players will arrive by train on Saturday, 11.30 a.m. at Spencer Street.

Soccer Carnival—King's Birthday

Twenty-seven teams have entered in the Junior Carnival and some good games are expected. There will be an amplifying system in operation, hot dogs, sandwiches, cakes, soft drinks, hot drinks, etc., as well as a big marquee and a number of small tents for dressing purposes.

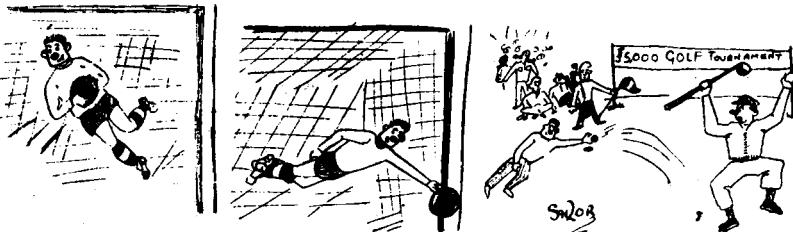
Ball boys and linesmen will be in attendance and a number of well-known players—Joe Wilson, Joe Bambra, Ralph White, Roger Parvin, Tome Lowe, Don Bingham and others—will referee.

The main game will commence at 2.15 p.m. sharp, after a speech of welcome to all the Junior teams and Woonona-Bulli. Referee E. Lowe has kindly given his services free, as also have two referees from the Referees' Association, who will act as linesmen. Thanks are extended to the Referees' Association for a very fine gesture. Trophies, etc., will be presented after the game.

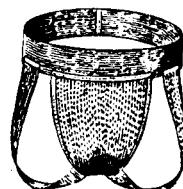
Woonona arrive Friday, June 9, at A.N.A. at 8.30 p.m. and will be driven straight to billets. On Saturday morning they will be given a reception by the Mayor of Sandringham. They will loosen up during the afternoon and will attend a social evening at night.

On Sunday a trip will be made to Wonthaggi as guests of the Wonthaggi Men's Club, and an exhibition game between Woonona and Sandringham will be staged at the local sports ground.

On Monday at 9.30 a.m. the visitors will be taken on a conducted tour of Melbourne and suburbs. On Monday afternoon the big game will be played. They will be farewelled at night.



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Pertinent Pars.

By P. SEARLE

VERSATILE

Suffering from concussion received in the recent State Trial game, Ralph White, popular Sandringham captain-coach, has been convalescing in Queensland. Ralph has been deputising for the Editor "Dicko" Dixon and doing a fine job for many weeks in this sphere.

BE IN IT!

Entries are flooding in for the Soccer Competition, which is proving most popular among the fans. As the old maxim goes, "You've got to be in it, to win it."

FLYING VISIT

Metters-Canterbury visit this week-end is a real streamlined affair, from the time the plane touches down tonight to take-off time on Monday evening.

RUN OF OUTS

Remarkable run of injuries by Moreland players must be very disheartening. At one stage 14 players were affected. The club extends their sympathy to the injured ones and looks forward to the change of luck that must come.

CHANGE OF VENUE?

The next World Soccer Cup after Rio—in 1954—may be held in Britain. At the moment the "games" are pledged to Switzerland. But the Swiss lack first-class facilities and grounds.

STALWART

Centre-half for Olympic, Michael Cauchi, represented a British Army team when playing in India. Captain-coach, he is outstanding this season.

TOO SEVERE?

Why should so many of our referees penalise players for fairly charging a goalkeeper when he has the ball in his grasp? Present players hardly know what a good old fair and square shoulder charge is.

A REAL ARTIST

Despite the bleak, windy day, a much larger crowd witnessed some clever soccer in the second Trial game at Olympic Park. Little chap who stole the show, as it were, was Beryanek, of J U S T.

THANKS A LOT

Moreland Club are deeply appreciative of the fine job the Coburg Council are doing for them this year. Hot and cold showers, exterior lighting, and increased dressing-room facilities is certainly very encouraging to the Committee.

IN POOR TASTE

A First Division game started over 20 minutes late last Saturday. Maybe some clubs need reminding of their obligations to the public that supports them. Referees can play a big part in getting prompt kick-offs.

FRIENDLY MATCHES

Any club desirous of a Sunday afternoon game couldn't do better than contact the "Mighty Atom" of Coburg, Secretary Ray Carlson, 180 O'Heas Road, Coburg.

CAME UNSTUCK

Our Competition fans failed badly last week, through away teams having another good day. Needle games produced three draws on the coupon.

KNOW YOUR CLUBS—11

FOOTSCRAY CITY

Footscray City is actually the old Bradford club, which this year changed its name, due to the fact that the club had far outgrown its original nucleus at the Bradford Cotton Mills.

Proof that the Mill connection is strongly behind the club is seen, however, in the fact that Jack Harrison, the club's original secretary, is still doing the same job. To Jack Harrison, Footscray City owes a lot, as he and his wife have made the club their baby since its inception.

Prominent still on the Committee is Jackie Gray, one-time captain of the R.A.A.F. (Laverton) side, who were so successful during the war years.

Others who have been with the club during its four years of existence are Bill Lawrie (ex-R.N. and Aberdeen half-back, who plays in that position for Footscray, Davie Rhodes, right-back, from Scottish team, Blantyre, and last but not least, the notorious Freddie Greig who, though not quite the force he once was, is still a very hard man to beat. Fred was vice-captain of R.A.A.F. (Laverton) during the war.

Newcomers include the Dawson brothers, one a brilliant goalkeeper and the other centre-half. H. Park (inside-left), who has just arrived from Scotland, has a terrific left drive and is very dangerous near goal.

Footscray City, from very small beginnings has gradually built up a very solid following, some of whom have now joined the committee. Prominent among these is Mr. J. Todd, whose son Jimmy was one of the original players, and whose left-wing dashes were famous, as also was his goal scoring ability.

The club's greatest worry has always been its ground, and this year things are at their worst and the ground they are using is scarcely fit to play on when wet. It is hoped that this difficulty will be overcome next year, however, as the Footscray City Council, recognising that soccer is now a force to be reckoned with, is doing up the club's old ground at Henry Turner Reserve, so that Footscray City has hopes that it will shortly have one of the finest grounds in the game.

The M.S.D. is headquarters for SOCCER

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SECRETARY'S NOTES

INTERSTATE MATCH

The executive of the Council of the V.A.S.F.A. has instructed me to issue the following statement:—

Following negotiations with South Australia, an Interstate match, Victoria v. South Australia, will be played in Melbourne on Saturday, July 29, 1950. No Cup or League matches will be played on July 29. Further information will be given at a later date.

S. BEATON, Secretary, V.A.S.F.A.

Cup Competitions.—Clubs are reminded that entry to Cup Competitions is made by payment of £1/0/0 for the Dockerty Cup and 15/- for the Reserve Cup and to the Treasurer of the V.A.S.F.A. Entries will close on June 24, 1950, and entry fees have not as yet been received from the following clubs:—Footscray City, Yarraville, Heidelberg, George Cross, Juventus, South Melbourne, Moorabbin, JUST, Fifers, Williamstown, Royal Caledonians, Geelong Celtic, International Harvester.

“SOCCER NEWS” FREE COMPETITION

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

A cash prize of £1 will be awarded for a correct forecast of the 14 games. Should more than one correct result be received, the prize will be equally divided among the successful entrants. Each entry must be submitted, in ink, on a current “Soccer News” Coupon.

POST your Entry to COMPETITION EDITOR, “SOCCER NEWS”, 5 GREENWOOD STREET, PASCOE VALE, W.7., endorsing your name and address on the back of the envelope in BLOCK LETTERS, so as to reach there not later than first post, THURSDAY, JUNE 8, 1950. Coupons must not be altered, mutilated, or defaced.

HOW TO CLAIM: Readers with 14 correct results can claim same by writing to the above address, endorsing envelope “CLAIM” in top left corner, so as to reach there by first post TUESDAY, JUNE 13, 1950.

No responsibility accepted for entry lost or mislaid. Proof of posting cannot be accepted as proof of delivery or receipt. No correspondence will be entered into.

Members of “Soccer News” and V.A.S.F.A. Officials are not eligible.

No. 1 CONTEST RESULT

No competitor succeeded in correctly forecasting the results of games listed on Coupon No. 1.

No. 2 CONTEST

First Division fixture on Coupon No. 2 Hakoah v. Sunshine was included in error. Competition will therefore be judged on the remaining 13 games, prizemoney for which will be £2.

MATCHES PLAYED JUNE 17, 1950 — “SOCCER NEWS” COUPON No. 3

Home	Away
First Division:	
Sunshine v. Prahran	
Park Rangers v. Moreland	
Footscray v. Brighton	
S. Yarra v. Hakoah	
Sandringham v. Box Hill	
Second Division:	
Preston v. Juventus	
Yarraville v. W. Suburbs	
Yallourn v. Sth. Melb.	
Third Division (South):	
Vic. Police v. F.N.D.	
Brighton v. Box Hill	
Third Division (North):	
Coburg v. Geelong Celtic	
Royal Caled. v. Sth. Yarra	
First Division Reserves:	
Prahran v. Sunshine	
Second Division Reserves:	
Juventus v. Preston	

To mark Coupon, place Fig. 1 in column provided to denote home team WIN, Fig. 2 to denote AWAY team WIN, Letter X to denote a DRAWN game.

I have read and agree to “Soccer News” Conditions of Entry, and accept their decision as final in all matters pertaining to same.

(Signature) _____ Date: _____ III. Block Letters)

SPECIAL NOTICE TO ENTRANTS

Many entries are being received without the name and address of Competitor appearing on the back of the envelope. Others are putting two entries on the one coupon, which is not allowed. Your attention is respectfully drawn to these matters. Competition Editor.

CLUB JOTTINGS

BOX HILL v. PRAHRAN

Box Hill's home game against Prahran was transferred to Olympic Park as the game of the day. Prahran won because they made the most of their opportunities and showed superior position play. Box Hill lost because they did not convert easy chances to score and did not adopt the correct style of game suitable to the slippery ball and heavy ground.

After several close calls by both teams, Prahran were first to score as a shot by Verbeek was deflected by Holborn, of Box Hill out of reach of Nicholson, who was playing a sterling game in goal.

In the second half the Box Hill players' passes intended for team-mates, were either intercepted by the Prahran backs, or went direct to them. Box Hill will now have a hard task to reach first place and must defeat Sunshine to have a chance. The goalkeepers on both sides (Ashworth for Prahran and Nichols for Box Hill) handled the slippery ball well under difficult conditions.

Final result:—Prahran 2, Box Hill 0. Best players—Prahran, Taylor at outside-left, also Tait, right-back; also Carter and Lachman, inside-forwards. For Box Hill, Holborn, Bert Nicholson and A. Nicholson were best.

The Under 19 team had a good win against Brighton, 6—2, and should acquit themselves well in the Lightning Premiership at Sandringham on King's Birthday, as should also the Under 14 team, which won again and are still on top in this Division.

The Reserve and Third Division teams lost, and they require a transfusion of young players from the Under 19 team to pep them up, also to give these lads experience and confidence for Senior grade football, where they will have to play next year if not sooner.

Save our Native Fauna No. 5



Two mammals alone in the world lay eggs, thus providing the scientist's "missing link" with the lower animals. Both are Australian: the Platypus is one, and the other is the Echidna (*Tachyglossus aculeatus*) which wanders in the open forest in search of ants and termites. It is protected by a coat of prickle superficially like those of the Porcupine to which, however, it is not related. A full grown specimen may weigh four or five pounds; but its mouth is less than half an inch wide, and toothless. It has to catch insects almost constantly with its long sticky tongue to survive. It has stout claws for breaking open ant nests.

UNIVERSITY SURPRISED !

After their big win against South Melbourne, University expected an easy victory against Yarraville, but were defeated, 3-1. After an early goal from Deacon, Yarraville equalised before half-time, only a fine penalty save by Gray preventing their taking the lead. In the second half University squandered their chances and with the defence far up field and wide open, Yarraville netted twice in two sudden breakaways. University Reserves met a depleted side at Yarraville and won 12-2 in a canter.

SANDRINGHAM CITY

In a hard, vigorous game, which was marred to some extent by laxity on the part of the referee, Sandringham City and Rangers drew one goal all. Shooting for goal by both forward lines was atrocious. Ralph White, at centre-half, was unavailable owing to injuries, and his place was taken by Tom Lowe, who is a cousin of Les and Don Bingham. Lowe played the third back game to perfection and with the return of White, the selectors will have a headache deciding a half-back line.

Machie, in goal, showed a return to form, but should wear gloves when the ground and ball are greasy. The way in which Lomax and Walton combined for City's goal was worth going miles to see.

The Reserves, full of confidence, travelled to Middle Park expecting to defeat Park Rangers and so share in the lead, but after a hard and fast game could only manage to share the points.

The Sandringham Club is certainly sticking to its name of glamour team, judging by the new club blazers worn by both Junior and Senior players. They look very nice; on the pocket is a sea-eagle flying over a soccer ball.

Arrangements have been completed for the visit of Woonona-Bulli this week-end, and a feast of entertainment is assured all supporters and members of the City club, also other clubs.

The secretary (Don Bingham) thanks all members of the Sandringham club for the assistance in providing billets for these players from New South Wales, also the persons who are providing cars for their use.

ROYAL CALEDONIANS v. MELBOURNE RANGERS

Royal Caledonians played the Melbourne Rangers at home on Saturday, June 3, and were beaten, 6-2. Although the score indicates a heavy defeat, this was not a true indication of the play, as Royal Caledonians had at least as much of the play as the Rangers, but their shooting boots were left at home. They tried a new left-wing (G. Cartt and H. Meek) which was a decided success, culminating in Meek scoring two well-deserved goals. Rangers' left-back (McCracken) was one of the best men on the ground, turning numerous attacks. The match was in the capable hands of Mr. J. Martin, who kept a firm hold-on the game.

PARK RANGERS GO VISITING

A memorable Sunday was spent at Wonthaggi by a coachload of Park Rangers members. A good game occupied our attention on the excellent Wonthaggi Oval, and I can speak for all who made the trip of the wonderful hospitality of these local soccer enthusiasts, who deserve the support of every Wonthaggi-ite in their endeavors to revive the once-famous Wonthaggi Magpies.

Sunday, June 11, at Park Rangers' ground will see a visiting team of no mean calibre in an XI from H.M.A.S. "Sydney" up against Park Rangers. Kick-off at 2.45 p.m. An ex-Ranger in Bob Cotterill is expected to be in "Sydney's" strong line-up.

PARK RANGERS SOCCER CLUB MEMBERS, PLEASE NOTE !

**A GENERAL MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE CHALET
(Upstairs) ON WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14, at 7.45 p.m.**

As the Business is of the Utmost Importance, a Large Attendance is requested.

J. STEPHEN. Secretary.

KNOW YOUR SOCCER

By JACK ASHENHURST

How many times have we heard that plaintive query, sometimes framed in forceful language, "What was that for?" How many decisions have we hotly disputed among ourselves? Do we ever concede that perhaps the referee is not so blind or even "one-eyed" as events tend to make him appear? How many of us are qualified to criticise?

It is hoped that the following series of articles will help enthusiasts to understand the finer points of the game and to appreciate the very onerous position of the referee, that much maligned individual. Various aspects of the game will be discussed during the season and what better subject to start off with than the offside rule?

THE OFFSIDE RULE

Without this rule the game would deteriorate into a riot of goal scoring and much of the interest and excitement would depart from the game. It is most important that the rule be thoroughly understood by officials and players alike as an attacking movement breaks down immediately there is an infringement of the rule.

The rule states that a player is offside when nearer his opponents' goal than the ball, except in the following circumstances:—

- (a) **When in his own half of the field.** This should be obvious, but it is surprising how many spectators appeal for offside when the player concerned is clearly "on his own side" of the field of play.
- (b) **When there are two of his opponents nearer to their goal line than he is.** It must be noted that it is not sufficient for the attacking player to be in line with the first of these opponents. They must both be between him and the goal line, otherwise he is offside. A matter of inches can make all the difference between an offside and an onside position.
- (c) **If the ball last touches or is played by an opponent and then passes on to an attacking player, the latter is not offside.** There is a delicate interpretation of this rule, however, for the referee may blow for offside just before the ball is actually touched by the defender.
- (d) **When an attacking player receives the ball direct from a corner kick, goal kick, throw in or drop down by the referee.** If, however, that player passes the ball to a team-mate who is in an offside position the whistle should blow for offside.
- (e) **When not interfering with play or an opponent or seeking to gain advantage by standing in an offside position.** This demands keen perception on the part of the referee. For instance, a player may be standing in an offside position but so far from the play that he is not directly interfering with it. Yet he may be occupying the attention of a defender and is thus indirectly interfering in that he is preventing the latter from covering another attacking player. Recently, at an Olympic Park game, an outside-left, standing in an offside position well over on his wing, called for the ball which, at the time, was right over on the opposite wing. He was immediately, and quite correctly, penalised for offside because he attempted to influence the course of the game. The spectators, not knowing what had happened, did not appreciate the decision and the poor referee came in for much abuse.

It will be appreciated that in addition to a thorough knowledge of this rule, a referee must have the fitness and ability to keep up with the game, keen anticipation and a clear understanding with his linesmen. The last requirement is important as a linesman is invariably in a better position to spot the offside and his is a lateral view.

Unfortunately, we have not yet reached the stage when official linesmen can be provided for League games. The referee therefore has to enlist volunteers, usually one from each club, to do without linesmen. This makes his task doubly difficult, for efficient and unbiased linesmen can considerably facilitate the application of the offside rule.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Readers are invited to send along queries, suggestions, etc., to the Editor. All will be given appropriate consideration.



Sir,—I see the Junior Association is appealing for funds to send a Schoolboy team to New South Wales. I think there is a trust fund for the benefit of the Juniors. Would it not be a good gesture if the trustee started the appeal with a grant? Apologies to him if he has already made provision.—Yours, etc., BILL BOWMAN.

[A trust fund is held for the assistance of Junior and Schoolboys' soccer by the Senior body, and no doubt they, the trustees, will assist us in sending our interstate teams away, and assist us to entertain the visiting Charlestown (New South Wales) Juniors in August. But as this Trust Fund is only in its infancy, and as we have other interstate plans for the coming seasons, i.e., a Schoolboy Carnival in 1951, we do not wish to call upon the trust for the whole financial assistance this season. Therefore, we have made an appeal to all soccer fans for financial assistance for our interstate arrangements for the present season. The Council of the V.A.S.F.A. has also granted us permission to take up a collection at Olympic Park during the Sunday Senior interstate Trial matches.—J. A. OLSEN, Secretary, V.J.A.S.F.A.]

Success v. Failure

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JUNIOR SECTION

PRE-CHARLESTOWN VISIT CHALLENGE MATCH

One of the matches arranged during the visit of the Charlestown (N.S.W.) Junior team in August is the 1948 Victorian Junior team versus Charlestown. It is anticipated that not every member of the successful 1948 Junior team will be available to participate in this match, so Arthur Scott, the skipper of that team, may have to include substitutes. This team in 1948 visited South Australia and won the "Skolnik Interstate Cup" for Victoria. It has been said by many soccer fans who witnessed the games in South Australia during that year, that the display by the Victorian team was the finest they have ever witnessed. These were the views expressed also by a Western Australian official who saw the match. Mr. Jock Parker, chairman of the Victorian Junior Association, stated to Mr. Scott that he could pick a young Victorian team that, in his opinion, would give the 1948 team a good go for it, and with this in mind a challenge has been issued to Arthur Scott, and the Challenge Match is to be played on Sunday week, June 18, at Middle Park, on South Melbourne United's ground, commencing at 2.45 p.m. Players of both teams are to be invited to participate, and the teams selected are as follows:—

ARTHUR SCOTT'S TEAM.—Goal, Weight (Park Rangers). Right-back, Overall (Box Hill). Left-back, Tait (Prahran). Right-half, Petterson (Park Rangers). Centre-half, Scott (Brighton). Left-half, Orr (Brighton). Outside-right, Kelly (South Melbourne United). Inside-right, Nelson (Park Rangers). Centre-forward, (J U S T). Inside-left, Thomas (Brighton). Outside-left, McKenzie (Brighton).

JOCK PARKER'S TEAM.—Goal, Roberts (Sunshine United). Right-back, Heath (Moreland). Left-back, Heyland (Preston). Right-half, Stott (South Melbourne United). Centre-half, McColl (Preston). Left-half, Williams (Preston). Outside-right, Migidalik (Hakoah). Inside-right, Evans (Sunshine United). Centre-forward, Stiles (South Melbourne United). Inside-left, Walls (Preston). Outside-left, Smith (Preston).

Reserves : Bader (Hakoah), Street (Ringwood), Brooker (South Melbourne United).

The proceeds of a collection to be taken at this match will go to the Junior Association's Interstate Fund.

SCHOOLBOYS TRAINING FOR INTERSTATE CONTESTS

With a possible visit to New South Wales this season, the Schoolboys' Interstate Trials were continued last Sunday afternoon at Middle Park, and the State Selectors have chosen the following boys to attend practice at Hurlingham Park, Brighton, next Sunday morning at 10.15:—Mathieson (Ringwood), Mars (Fairweather (Preston), Smith (Footscray Tech.), Hartley (Coburg), Johnson, Westaway (South Melbourne), Routon, Hodgson (Sandringham), Wittey (Park Rangers), Linstein, Orr, Lea (Brighton), Douchar, Bedford (Box Hill), Pepper (Northcote), Petherick (Sunshine).

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PARK RANGERS TURN THE TABLES

As was suggested in last week's "Junior Notes" as a distinct possibility, Park Rangers Under 16 team did turn the tables on their neighbors, South Melbourne United, and won the day comfortably to the extent of 3 goals to nil. All Rangers' three goals came in the first half, including one (a penalty) for a hand-ball by one of South's defenders. Rangers' players displayed more cohesive football than their opponents, and were more accurate in their kicking. Their victory was well deserved.

VERY LITTLE CHANGE IN LADDERS

After last Saturday's games in all sections of the Junior League, very little change resulted in the League Ladders. In the Under 19 "A" Section, no change resulted in the order on the ladder, whilst in the "B" Section, the only change was that Coburg moved one step ahead of South Melbourne United, owing to the latter being without a game through the withdrawal of Yarraville. The Under 16 Division remained as it was, whilst the only change in the Under 14 Division was South Melbourne United "A" team's elevation to top position over Box Hill, by a slightly better goal average.

SUNSHINE UNITED AND YALLOURN TIPPED TO WIN

Both Sunshine United (second) and Box Hill (third), in the "A" Section of the Under 19 Division, had comfortable wins last Saturday, and both teams, when they meet today, will be all out to add to their laurels. This should be the main match in the Division today, with the odds in favor of Sunshine, who, whatever the result, cannot lose their second top position on the League Championship Ladder.

The Juventus versus Yallourn match in the "B" Section, should also be an interesting contest, but Yallourn should continue on its winning way.

GAME AT SURREY PARK

The Box Hill-Park Rangers contest at Surrey Park in the Under 16 Division, will be the match of the day in the Intermediate grade, and if Park Rangers repeat the form noticed in their match against South Melbourne United last Saturday, they should have another success.



COBURG CLUB JOTTINGS

Coburg Soccer Club to the forefront again—3 wins and a draw out of 4 games. The game of the day, Coburg v. Fifers, was played in the mud, and after a keen struggle the game ended in a draw—1 goal each. Coburg in the second half had most of the play, but the Fifers' defence played more Cup Tie than League football, and when pressed always kicked the ball out of play.

The Reserve team played Fifers' Reserves, and defeated them—3 goals to 1. This, no doubt, shows that the Reserve team, capably handled by Jim Peebles, is making progress fast, as they have won their last three games.

The Schoolboys defeated South Melbourne "B," one goal to nil; the Juniors Under 19 defeated Moorabbin, 3 goals to 1. Good work, Coburg. All teams are well up the ladder, which goes to prove that harmony and good feeling prevails at Coburg. Best players: Seniors, Ganeck, McDonald, Smithwick; Juniors, White, Hartley, Sandy; Reserve, Molloy, Gamble, Turncross; Schoolboys, McCarthy, Huckvale.

LEAGUE TABLES AS AT JUNE 3, 1950

Goals										Goals									
	P	W	D	L	F	A	P		P	W	D	L	F	A	P				
First Division										First Division Reserves									
Sunshine United	11	9	0	2	32	15	18		Victoria Police	10	7	0	3	29	15	14			
Brighton	11	6	2	3	31	21	14		Moorabbin	10	4	2	4	30	19	10			
Prahran	11	7	0	4	27	22	14		Park Rangers	9	2	0	7	22	36	4			
Sandringham City	11	5	3	2	21	21	13		Box Hill	9	2	0	7	11	44	4			
Box Hill	9	5	2	2	32	17	12		Brighton	9	1	1	7	18	61	3			
South Yarra	11	4	4	3	20	19	12		Bentleigh	9	1	0	8	12	51	2			
Park Rangers	11	3	1	7	17	19	7												
Footscray City	10	2	2	6	15	26	6												
Moreland	11	1	3	7	17	32	5												
Hakoah	10	2	1	7	16	36	5												
Second Division										Second Division Reserves									
Yallourn	11	9	1	1	64	18	19		Yallourn	10	10	0	0	59	6	0			
Preston	11	8	0	3	41	19	16		Preston	11	8	1	2	46	1				
South Melbourne	11	8	0	3	42	27	16		Juventus	11	8	0	3	51	24				
Western Suburbs	10	7	0	3	35	22	14		South Melbourne	11	7	1	3	44	13	15			
Juventus	11	5	2	4	29	17	12		Western Suburbs	10	6	0	4	44	27	12			
George Cross	10	5	0	5	10	9	10		Meib. University	9	4	0	5	35	30	8			
Meib. University	10	4	0	6	23	30	8		George Cross	8	3	0	5	11	16	6			
Yarraville	10	3	1	6	14	51	7		Heidelberg	11	2	0	9	9	76	4			
Ringwood	11	2	0	9	23	42	4		Ringwood	10	1	0	9	0	32	2			
Heidelberg	11	0	0	11	9	55	0		Yarraville	9	0	0	9	6	66	0			
Third Division (North)										Third Division Reserves									
Fifers	11	9	1	1	54	14	19		Olympic	5	4	0	1	31	3	8			
White Eagles	9	8	1	0	51	9	17		Williamstown	5	4	0	1	24	14	8			
Coburg	11	6	2	3	35	24	14		Woodlands	6	3	0	3	19	22	6			
Williamstown	11	7	0	4	28	30	14		Coburg	3	1	0	2	6	9	2			
Geelong Celtic	9	5	1	3	29	20	11		Fifers	4	1	0	3	1	26	2			
Melbourne Rangers	9	4	0	5	24	25	8		Moorabbin	4	0	0	4	0	17	0			
Woodlands	10	3	0	7	30	52	6												
Int. Harvesters	9	2	1	6	18	27	5												
Royal Caledonians	9	1	0	8	19	36	2												
South Yarra	8	0	0	8	5	50	0												
White Eagles v. Woodlands.—No result phoned.																			
Third Division (South)										Third Division Reserves									
J U S T	9	7	2	0	43	5	16		Olympic	5	4	0	1	31	3	8			
F.N.D.	9	7	1	1	48	9	15		Williamstown	5	4	0	1	24	14	8			
Olympic	8	7	0	1	40	12	14		Woodlands	6	3	0	3	19	22	6			

JUNIOR AMATEUR LEAGUE TABLES AS AT JUNE 3, 1950

Under 19 "A" Section										Under 16 Division									
South Yarra	10	9	0	1	38	10	18		Northcote	11	10	0	1	27	5	20			
Sunshine United	10	8	1	1	34	9	17		Brighton	11	8	1	2	27	12	17			
Box Hill	10	6	1	3	25	14	13		Sth. Meib. United	11	6	2	3	27	14	14			
Brighton	9	5	0	4	30	16	10		Sandringham City	10	6	0	4	19	21	12			
Army Apprentices	9	4	1	4	14	36	9		Box Hill	10	5	1	4	22	9	11			
Sandringham City	10	2	2	6	13	29	6		Park Rangers	10	5	0	5	14	13	10			
Park Rangers	10	2	0	8	14	47	4		Preston	11	3	2	6	12	15	8			
Hakoah	10	0	1	9	3	10	1		Ringwood	9	2	0	7	14	30	4			
Under 19 "B" Section										Under 14 Division									
Yallourn	11	10	1	0	46	4	21		S. Melb. United "A"	11	7	1	3	47	13	15			
Preston	11	8	1	2	41	8	17		Box Hill	10	7	1	2	21	6	15			
Juventus	10	6	1	3	25	19	13		Coburg	11	7	0	4	24	23	14			
Coburg	11	6	1	4	22	19	13		Park Rangers	10	6	1	3	41	10	13			
Sth. Meib. United	10	6	0	4	30	11	12		Western Suburbs	10	9	1	0	35	7	11			
Ringwood	11	5	0	6	20	27	10		Sandringham City	10	4	3	3	15	15	11			
Metters	11	3	2	6	19	35	8		Preston	11	4	1	6	27	37	9			
Moorabbin	11	2	1	8	18	39	5		Sunshine United	11	7	2	2	47	11	8			
Northcote	10	0	0	10	7	63	0		Brighton	11	2	2	7	17	31	6			

Under 19.—A decision as to allotment of points to teams drawn against Yarraville, which has been withdrawn from the competition, will be decided at the next Junior Association meeting.

Under 16.—Sandringham City v. Sunshine United match not played on June 3.